

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUANDA 00595 240836Z

12

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 SAM-01 SCCT-02 DRC-01 /137 W

----- 100727

R 231600Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2803

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY PTETORIA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUANDA 0595

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV AO

SUBJECT: MILITARY JUNTA FOR ANGOLA

REF: LUANDA 588

1. MEDIA TODAY REPORTS THAT PORTUGUESE JUNTA ON JULY 22 "DECIDED TO CREATE A MILITARY JUNTA FOR ANGOLA. THE POLITICO-ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE OF ANGOLA WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT AN OPPORTUNE TIME." NO FURTHER DETAILS GIVEN.

2. COMMENT: THIS MAY BE "SURPRISE ANNOUNCEMENT" PREDICTED BY MILITARY SOURCE TO VISITING AMERICAN NEWSMAN LAST WEEKEND. IT MAY WELL BE FIRST, LOGICAL STEP TOWARD MORE FAR-REACHING CHANGES AND SEEMS INITIALLY DESIGNED TO BRING APRIL 25 REVOLUTION TO ANGOLA, IN LINE WITH MFA'S VIEW THAT THIS LONG OVERDUE (SEPTTEL).

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3. AT CHANCE MEETING WITH ACTING HEAD OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT

DE ANTONIO AUGUSTO DE ALMEIDA YESTERDAY, HE TOLD ME NEITHER HE
NOR ANY OF PRESENT CABINET EXPECTS TO STAY ON VERY LONG. ALMEIDA
IS FRANKLY SOUR ABOUT HAVING "LET THEM TALK" HIM INTO REMAINING
IN CABINET, AFTER DEPARTURE OF SANTOS E CASTRO. (NOTE: ALMEIDA
HAS THREE BROTHERS ACTIVE IN MPLA ABROAD. HE IS VERY DARK
MESTIZO FROM LUANDA, IS SENIOR TO PINHEIRO DA SILVA, ERRONEOUSLY
REPORTED OVER WEEKEND IN LOCAL MEDIA AND REFTEL AS ACTING HEAD OF
GOVERNMENT. ALMEIDA COMMENTED WITHOUT RANCOR: "I HAVE A VERY BAD
PRESS," IRONIC REFERENCE TO FACT THAT DURING BOTH SANTOS E
CASTRO AND SILVERIO MARQUES GOVERNMENTS HE WAS USED REPEATEDLY
FOR COSMETIC PURPOSES TO SHOW BLACK IN HIGH POSITION.)
BRIGGS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
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